

Message Text

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FM AMCONSUL SALVADOR

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INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

UNCLAS SALVADOR 0064

STATE FOR EB/CSB/OCA AND ARA/BR

COMMERCE FOR BIC/OED/MEPD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BENZ, EAIR, BR

SUBJECT: NATIONAL STANDARD FOR LIGHT RAIL VEHICLE-(LRV)-

REF: MEMORANDA, PART I-(UNCLASSIFIED)-PART II-(LOU)- JULY 9 1976

SENT TO STATE AND COMMERCE ADDRESSEES

1. SUMMARY IN DISCUSSION WITH BAHIA STATE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION,CONSUL LEARNED THAT A PROTOCOL -(LETTER OF INTENT)-HAS BEEN SIGNED BY THE STATE OF BAHIA AND THE STATE OF RIO DE JANEIRO IN WHICH THE TWO STATES AGREED,IN PRINCIPLE TO CREAT ONE SET OF SPECIFICATIONS FOR THEIR TWO CAPITAL-CITY LRV -(OR PRE-METRO)-SYSTEMS. A FINAL AGREEMENT, OR CONVENION IS PENDING.BAHIAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITIES STATED THEIR EXPECTATION THAT IF CONVENIO IS SIGNED IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS,THAT SET OF STANDARDS -(1)- COULD BE ACHIEVED BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR AND -(2)- WOULD BE SUCH AS TO ALLOW THE THREE MOST ADVANCED LRV'S WHICH ARE PRODUCED BY BOEING ,A GERMAN FIRM,AND A BELGIAN FIRM TO COMPETE IN THE SALVADOR PROJECT END SUMMARY.

2. DURING VISIT ON AUGUST 17 TO BAHIA STATE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION,WELLINGTON CORREIA DE FIGUEREDO,AND TO HIS UNCLASSIFIED

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ASSISTANT,COORDINATOR OF TRANSPORTATION,IVAN JORGE ALVES DE O.

NETTO,CONSUL LEARNED THAT THE STATE OF BAHIA AND THE STATE OF RIO HAD REACHED PRELIMINARY AGREEMENT,BY SIGNING A PROTOCOLO, TO CREATE ONE SET OF STANDARDS FOR AN LRV FOR THEIR RESPECTIVE CAPITAL CITIES. IN ADDITION BAHIAN TRANSPORTATION OFFICIALS STATED THAT IT WAS THEIR EXPECTATION THAT THE STANDARDS AGREED UPON WOULD BE SUCH AS TO ALLOW THE THREE MANUFACTURERS OF THE MOST ADVANCED LRVS,BOEING,A GERMAN FIRM,AND A BELGIAN FIRM TO COMPETE FOR THE SALVADOR PROJECT. IF THIS EXPECTATION IS FULFILLED IT MEANS THAT SALVADOR WOULD AVOID THE SITUATION CREATED BY RIO DE JANEIRO PRE - METRO -(OR LRV)- SPECIFICATIONS ANNOUNCED IN JULY,WHICH THEREFORE WOULD HAVE REQUIRED A ONE TO THREE YEARS LONG PROCESS OF REDESIGN AND EXPERIMENT.

3. THERE ARE STILL SOME DETAILS TO BE WORKED OUT BEFORE A CONVENIO -(A FULL-FLEDGED DETAILED AGREEMENT)- CAN BE SIGNED BUT THE CONVENIO -"MIGHT BE ACHIEVED WITHIN A FEW WEEKS ." ACCORDING TO BAHIA TRANSPORTATION OFFICIALS,THE STATE OF RIO DE JANEIRO ASKED FOR COMMENTS ON ITS PRE - METRO SPECIFICATIONS BY AUGUST 22 STATED IT WOULD RESPOND TO THESE COMMENTS WITHIN 15 DAYS.THE STATE OF BAHIA HAS ALREADY PRESENTED ITS VIEWS CONCERNING THE IDEA OF ADOPT THE SAME STANDARDS IS ACHIEVED, MR FIGUEREDO ESTIMATED THAT NEW SET OF SPECIFICATIONS MIGHT BE READY SOMETIME BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR.

4. MR FIGUEREDO AND MR NETTO ADDED THAT THE CHIEF OF THE REDE FERROVIARIA FEDERAL -(FEDERAL RAILROAD NETWORK)- BASED IN RIO DE JANEIRO , WAS INVOLVED IN THE STANDARDS DISCUSSIONS AND THAT HE STRONGLY ADVOCATED SEPARATE TRACKS FOR CARGO AND PASSENGERS.THIS COULD REQUIRE BAHIA TO BUILD TWO NEW TRACKS OF THE NEW,MORE MODERN GAUGE OF APPROXIMATELY 1 METER 60 CENTIMETERS ALONG THE RIGHT OF WAY OF IS PRESENT 1 METER GAUGE TRACK.

5. THE GOAL OF THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT OF BAHIA,IS TO COMPLETE, BY THE TIME IT LEAVES OFFICE IN MARCH 1979,AN LRV LINE FROM THE END OF THE CIDADE BAIXA -(LOWER CITY , NEAR THE MERCADO MODELO-) OUT ABOUT 30 KILOMETERS TO THE TOWN OF SIMOES FILHO -(A FEW KILOMETERS AWAY FROM THE CAMACARI PETROCHEMICAL COMPLEX)- THERE WOULD BE SEVERAL STOPS ALONG WAY INCLUDING ONE AT THE ARATAU INDUSTRIAL CENTER.EXISTING TRACK RIGHT-OF-WAY GOES UNCLASSIFIED

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AS FAR DOWNTOWN AS CALCADA. ADDITIONAL TRACK RIGHT -OF -WAY WOULD HAVE TO BE CREATED FROM CALCADA TO CIDADE BAIXA.

6. COMMENT.UNIL THE FINAL SPECIFICATIONS FOR SALVADOR -(WHETHER IN CONJUNCTION WITH RIO OR NOT)- ARE ANNOUNCED IT THE SALVADOR PROJECT.

7. IT IS SIGNIFICANT THAT SERIOUS THOUGHT IS BEING GIVEN TO DEVELOPING ONE SET OF LRV SPECIFICATIONS FOR RIO AND

SALVADOR .WHEN BAHIAN TRANSPORTATION OFFICIALS VISITED THE U.S
IN JULY TO SEE BOEING'S LRV,BOEING MADE STRONG ARGUMENT THAT IF
SALVADOR SPECIFICATIONS,TO BE DEVELOPED,WERE SIGNIFICANTLY
DIFERENT FROM THE THREE MOST ADVANCED LRV CARS,THAT DESIGN AND
EXPERIMENT TIME FOR A NEW CAR COULD MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR
SALVADOR TO MEET ITS MARCH 1979,DEADLINE. IN ADDITION BOEING
NOTED THE ADVANTAGES OF SEEKING AGREEMENT ON A NATIONAL SET OF
STANDARDS,WHICH THE U.S HAS RECENTLY DEVELOPED,AS A WAY OF
AVOIDING MULTIPLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS.THESE ARGUMENTS WERE
CONVINCING TO THIS WRITER -(SEE REF MEMOS)- AND APPARENTLY TO THE
BAHIAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITIES WHO RAISED THE ISSUE WITH
THEIR RIO DE JANEIRO STATE COUNTERPARTS.

8. AGREEMENT BY RIO AND SALVADOR ON SET OF STANDARS,COULD
LEAD TO A NATIONAL STANDARD IF THE TWO CITIES ACHIEVED AGREEMENT
AND THEN DISCUSSED THEIR PROJECT WITH TRANSPORTATION
SECRETARIATS IN OTHER STATES
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